**Subject No. 139.**

**Bad roads in Tirthahalli Taluk and raiyats labor impressed for road work.**

*Summary of discussion.*—The roads in the Tirthahalli Taluk are very bad, particularly village roads which the raiyats are supposed to maintain. Carts often get upset on these roads and thereby men and bullocks are hurt and carts and goods damaged. Government should repair these roads. The rule that Rs. 8 or Rs. 10 a mile may be paid as a grant-in-aid of the repair and maintenance of some of these roads, raiyats being required to do the rest, is inconvenient and unjust. Raiyats cannot repair roads without neglecting their fields; and for road work they already pay local cess on their land assessment. Raiyats should therefore not be compelled to work on these roads. The Tudur-Koppa road is a case in point and now on hand for which raiyats labor is impressed. Some roads (those near Hamchakatte and Koppa for instance) already in existence are badly in need of bridges and tunnels, in consequence of which traffic is considerably impeded. On the other hand, Mr. Mahomed Ali Saib (Representative from Mandya Taluk Mysore District) would submit for the favorable orders of Government the question of compelling the raiyats to open out village roads to facilitate cart traffic. The roads formerly opened by raiyats and also the avenue trees have deteriorated, not being properly cared for.

*Dewan's reply.*—Raiyats cannot be compelled to make or repair roads. The necessity for providing bridges and tunnels on roads will be commended to the Public Works Department and the Local Fund Board.

**Subject No. 140.**

**Demarcation of Soppinbettas.**

*Summary of discussion.*—Although it is nearly 4 or 5 years since the Government contemplated the demarcation and allotment of soppinbettas for wet and garden cultivation, the measure has not yet been brought into effect. Nor has it been settled what extent of soppinbetta there should be for a given area of garden or wet land. Seeing that every one can enter on the land, now assigned in common as soppinbetta, the raiyats have no interest in its conservancy and improvement. Early demarcation and allotments are therfore desired.

Two other R. Ms. from the Shimoga District represented that Hadya or Hakkal lands to the extent—one gentleman said—of one hundred yards, and the other gentleman said—of two hundred yards, adjacent to arecanut gardens and rice lands should be allowed free of tax with all rights over the trees standing thereon to raiyats holding such lands so as to enable them to put up hedges against the intrusion of thieves, cattle and wild animals. Also that the order prohibiting raiyats from cutting soppu (leaves for manure) from kans in their holdings should be cancelled, and the raiyats allowed to cut the same freely for agricultural purposes as some soppinbettas do not contain a sufficient number of trees, some are not sufficiently extensive while some others are far away from the gardens to be served by them.

*Dewan's reply.*—All these questions will be settled by the Survey Department who have been instructed to undertake the work of demarcating soppinbettas this cold weather.